

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE****MASS LOAD METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR A DATA STORAGE LIBRARY**

5           A data storage library is disclosed that provides a  
variable sized load/unload area within the library. The  
data storage library includes a housing defining an  
exterior and an interior region, storage slots disposed  
in the interior region for storing data cartridges, a  
10 barrier door, a front door, and a controller. The  
barrier door has a closed position for dividing the  
interior region into a first interior region and a second  
interior region. Thus, the interior region is divided  
into two regions when the barrier door is closed. The  
15 controller closes the barrier door prior to the front  
door being opened, and opens the barrier door after the  
front door is closed. Thus, access is permitted to only  
the first interior region from the exterior region when  
the front door is opened. The first interior region is  
20 sized to permit a user to entirely physically enter the  
first interior region.